

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are now pending in the application. New claims 6-15 are added by this amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claims 2 and 3 stand objected to because of minor informalities. Applicant has made non-narrowing amendments to Claims 2 and 3 to correct these minor informalities.

DOUBLE PATENTING

Claims 1-5 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-9 of U.S. Patent No. 6,619,188.

The Applicant submits that the presently pending claims are not obvious in light of the art cited by the Examiner. Each of these claims include at least one element that is not "merely an obvious variation" of a claim in U.S. Patent No. 6,619,188.

Therefore the Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection and allow each of the pending claims.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant notes that Examiner has stated that Claims 1-5 are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art fails to disclose or render obvious the claims 1-5. New claims 6-19 also are in condition for allowance as the cited art neither teaches nor fairly suggests each of the new claims. Therefore, the Applicant requests that the

Examiner allow each of the presently pending claims and pass the present application to allowance at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 6/4/84

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